News For Veterans

Contact: J.P. Tremblay Jerry Jones Jaime Arteaga Legislation and Public Affairs 916-653-2192 Fax 916-653-2611 June 8, 2006

NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CDVA INVITES VETERANS TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE SURVEY TO MEASURE AWARENESS OF VETERANS BENEFITS

Serving the state's veterans is not just the mission of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, but also its passion. In an effort to ensure that no veteran falls through the cracks, CDVA is currently conducting a statewide veterans benefits survey through July 28 to help it discover any pockets of underserved or unserved veterans.

"The staff at CDVA takes its job seriously and the possibility that some California veterans are being underserved or not served at all is unacceptable," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Tom Johnson. "I am hopeful that this survey will lead us to those veterans so they can receive the benefits they have earned through their military service to our country."

CDVA chose a two-month window for the survey to allow enough time for a large number of veterans to participate. Veterans are encouraged to invite their peers to participate in this survey. The department is hopeful that an analysis of the survey's results will assist it in designing future outreach and marketing strategies aimed at increasing participation the CalVet Home Loan Program, expanding enrollment at the state's three veterans homes, and enhancing the general awareness and knowledge of the many other benefits available to California veterans.

The 13-question Veterans Benefits Survey is designed to be completed online through our website at www.cdva.ca.gov by clicking on the "Veterans, Please take our Benefits Survey" link. This simple survey can be completed in a matter of minutes, yet the information it may yield will benefit veterans for years and will be tremendously helpful to CDVA.

"We look forward to improving the effectiveness of our outreach efforts," added Johnson. "And the more veterans participate in this survey the better we can serve them."